

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): December 9, 2002

HERSHEY FOODS CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

1-183

23-0691590

(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

(Commission
File Number)

(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

100 Crystal A Drive, Hershey, Pennsylvania

17033

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (717) 534-6799

Page 1 of 3 Pages
Exhibit Index - Page 3

INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN REPORT

Item 9. Regulation FD Disclosure

On December 9, 2002, Hershey Foods Corporation (the "Company") announced that it will hold a meeting with analysts in Hershey, Pennsylvania on December 13, 2002, and that the Company will webcast live the presentation from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon via the Company's Web site (Investor Relations section) at www.hersheys.com. A copy of the Company's press release announcing the meeting is furnished herewith as Exhibit 99.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,

the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Date: December 9, 2002

HERSHEY FOODS CORPORATION

By /s/ Frank Cerminara

Frank Cerminara
Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

Page 2 of 3 Pages
Exhibit Index - Page 3

Exhibit Index

| Exhibit No. ----- | Description ----- |
|----------------------|---|
| 99 | Press Release dated December 9, 2002, announcing Hershey Foods Corporation's meeting with analysts to be held in Hershey, Pennsylvania and webcast live on Hershey's corporate Web site on December 13, 2002. |

HERSHEY FOODS TO WEB CAST ANALYSTS' MEETING

HERSHEY, Pa. December 9, 2002--Hershey Foods Corporation (NYSE:HSY) announced today that it will hold an analysts' meeting in Hershey on December 13, 2002. The Company will webcast live the presentations from 8:30 a.m. through 12 noon via the Hershey corporate Web site at www.hersheys.com. Please go to the Investor Relations section of the Web site for further details.